Table 1. Quality Criteria

RESOURCE CONCERNS	DEFINITIONS	QUALITY CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT TOOL
A. Soil			
1. Erosion			
a. Sheet, rill, interrill	Erosion caused by rainfall, snowmelt, and surface water runoff whose flow channels are normally obscured by mechanical means	Soil Loss Tolerance "T"	Current erosion prediction tool i.e. Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE or RUSLE2)
b. Wind	Erosion caused by wind	Soil Loss Tolerance "T"	Current erosion prediction tool i.e. Wind Erosion Equation (WEQ)
c. Concentrated Flow	Flow channels that are not normally obscured by mechanical means	Stable flow area	Volume calculation
d. Irrigation induced erosion	Erosion caused by excessive amounts of water in row, furrow and sprinkler irrigation activities or by water conveyances and tracks from center pivots and traveling guns and runoff channels	Soil Loss Tolerance "T"	Imhoff Cones or state approved predictive tool
e. Stream Bank	Accelerated sloughing of banks caused by streamflows, overbank flows, unstable soils, previous channelization, obstructions and trampling (including human activity, or heavy equipment use), or all or any combination of these conditions.	Assessment tool shows condition of stream is healthy or if off-site conditions cause the stream to be unhealthy, then landuser is not contributing to the problem	Stream assessment tool i.e. Stream Visual Assessment Protocol, Proper Functioning Condition (PFC)
2. Condition			
a. Tilth	Physical condition of the soil relating to its ease of tillage and fitness as a seedbed which provide a low level of impedance to seedling emergence and root penetration	The calculation of the Soil Condition Rating Index value will reflect a positive soil condition for cropland	Soil conditioning index, aggregate stability test in Soil Quality test kit, soil quality scorecard
B. Water			
1. Quantity			
a. Water management, irrigated	Existing water supply is not used in a timely and efficient manner, which includes managing water yield, surface flows, and/or ground water recharge	Irrigation water is applied according to an irrigation water management plan, which considers plant consumptive use requirements, and minimizes losses to surface and groundwater to the extent feasible	Farm Irrigation Rating System (FIRS), Farm Irrigation Rating Index (FIRI)

RESOURCE CONCERNS	DEFINITIONS	QUALITY CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT TOOL
2. Quality			
a. Groundwater contaminants	Beneficial uses of groundwater are impacted by contaminants	Appropriate Risk Assessment Tool resulting in a low rating	Risk Assessment Tool i.e. Nitrogen Leaching Index, WinPest, NAPRA, Farm-A-Syst
b. Surface contaminants	Beneficial uses of surface water are impacted by contaminants	Appropriate Risk Assessment Tool resulting in a low rating	Risk Assessment Tool i.e. Phosphorus Index, WinPest, NAPRA, Farm-A-Syst
C. Air			
	Federal and state agencies set quality criteria and monitor this resource		
D. Plants			
2. Condition			
a1. Cropland Productivity	Crops are of a kind and/or quality that do not meet the landowner's objectives and may not sustain the resource	A healthy, vigorous stand yielding 75% or more of the high management yield potential for the soil map unit.	Comparison to similar crops in the area with different management. Crop consultant information, producer yields, soils data
a2. Hayland/Pastureland Productivity and Health	Plant communities do not produce forage and/or cover in the quantity, quality and timeliness needed to meet decision-maker objectives and sustain the resource	A healthy, vigorous stand of desired species yielding 65% or more of the high management yield potential for the species for the given forage suitability group	National Range & Pasture Handbook (Pasture Inventory Worksheet and Pasture Condition Score Sheet)
a3. Grazingland Productivity and Health (Grazed Range and Grazed Forest)	Plant communities produce forage and/or cover in the quantity, quality and timeliness needed to meet conservation, environmental, decision-maker and public objectives	Maintaining a plant community with a similarity index of 60 percent or more or having an upward trend for plant communities with a similarity index less than 60 percent	National Range & Pasture Handbook (Similarity Index Worksheet, Forage Balance Worksheet, and Rangeland Health Worksheet)

RESOURCE CONCERNS	DEFINITIONS	QUALITY CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT TOOL
a4. Forest Productivity and Health	Plant communities do not produce wood fiber in the quantity, quality and timeliness needed to meet decision-maker objectives and sustain the resource	Forest overstory stocking levels are within 25 percent of the "D+X" spacing guide or equivalent for the particular site and stand composition; trees within the stand are uniformly distributed. Under story plant community is comprised of 50 percent or more, by weight, of expected species for the site and is proportionate with over story canopy. Bare mineral soil comprises 50 percent or less of ground surface area	Stocking rate of preferred species, basal area measurement of trees, timber production,
E. Animals			
1. Habitat			
a. Domestic	The food, water, shelter, space, and sanitation provided to animals is inadequate for optimum health and production.	Domestic animals are provided adequate shelter; cover; sufficient quantity and quality of water to meet daily needs; and quantity and quality of food is adequate to meet their nutritional requirements	National Range and Pasture Handbook, NUTBAL, Forage Inventory (ECS-20, ECS-19), Forage Balance Worksheet (ECS-1)
b. Wildlife	Wildlife habitat does not consist of suitable food, cover/shelter, water and space	Wildlife habitat evaluation guide index is 0.5 or greater for the land use	Wildlife habitat evaluation guide index